Department of State

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SENT DEPARTMENT 1911, REPEATED INFORMATION BONN 154, BERLIN 27,

NOFORN FROM THURSTON.

IT SEEMS TO GENERAL NORSTAD AND MYSELF THAT SUGGESTIONS MADE IN BERLIN'S 360 TO DEPT FOR WESTERN INITIATIVE IN PROPOSING 4-POWER CONFERENCE ON GER QUESTION IN IMMEDIATE FUTURE HAS CONSIDERABLE MERIT AND SHOULD BE GIVEN URGENT

SITUATION IN BERLIN ITSELF IS SUCH THAT SOVIETS AND GDR CAN APPLY PRESSURES ON US LEADING TO SERIES OF CAPITULATIONS. ON ISSUES WHICH MAY NOT SEEM IN OUR EYES AND THOSE OF ALLIES TO JUSTIFY RESORT TO FORCE OR OTHER RISKY COUNTER-MEASURES. OUR OVER_ALL POLITICAL, MILITARY AND REYCHOOGICAL

POSITION IN GER IS, HOWEVER, STILL STRONG. THEREFORE WE ARE TO TAKE FORTHRIGHT STAND ON BERLIN QUESTION RECOMMENDED IN BERLIN'S REFTEL, AND MAKE CLEARS OUR SE ETERMINATION TO REMAIN THERE, WE CAN GET MAXIMUM SUPPORT FROM OUR ALLIES BY PROCLAIMING TO WORLD:

(1) THE READINESS OF THE U.S., U.K. AND FRANCE TO MAKE A FRESH START TO REACH WITH SOVIETS ON OVER-ALLGER ETTLEMENT BASED ON THE PRINCIPLES OF (A) THE RIGHTS OF GERS TO ACHIEVE UNITY IN PEACE AND FREEDOM, AND (B) TEUROPEAN SECURITY. (WE COULD PROPOSE OUR INTENTION OF ASKING GER EXPERTS TO PARTICIPATE IN THE WORK OF

WESTERN DELEGATIONS, LEAVING IT TO SOVIETS TO TAKE SIMILAR

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-2- 1011, NOVEMBER 21, 8 PM, FROM PARIS

(2) THE JEOPARDY TO EUROPEAN PEACE AND SECURITY INVOLVED IN AN ATTEMPTS TO CHANGE THE STATUS QUO IN BERLIN UNTIL GER SETTLEMENT IS REACHED.

WE BELIEVE ANY PROPOSAL ON OUR PART FOR 4-POWER CONFERENCE (WHICH PRESUMABLY WOULD BE AT FONMIN LEVEL) MUST BE MADE IN VERY NEAR FUTURE IF WE ARE TO AVOID GIVING APPEARANCE THAT PROPOSAL IS LAST_GASP MEASURE BY ALLIES IN FACE OF SOVIET_GDR ACTIONS. SMIRNOV DEMARCHE TO ADENAUER INDICATED SOVIETS WILL COME UP SOON WITH CONCRETE PROPOSALS, AND WE SHOULD ENDEAVOUR MAKE OUR OWN MOVE BEFORE WE ARE BACKED INTO EMBARRASSING CORNER RE GDR PERSONNEL AT CONTROL POINTS IN EAST GERMANY, ACCEPTANCE GDR VISAS, ETC.

EMBASSY AND USRO WILL COMMENT SEPARATELY.

HOUGHTON

INK/21

Note: Mr. Hillenbrand (GER) notified 11/21/58, 5:45 p.m., EH.

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